

CLAIMS

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1. An atopic dermatitis inducer activating mast cells and basophiles upon binding to a human own IgE antibody, which includes a purified
5 human secretion fraction, or an antigenic molecule or an antigenic determinant in the purified fraction, and is obtained through the following steps of:
filtering a human secretion, removing insoluble matters and collecting the filtrate;
10 mixing the filtrate with a ConA-affinity carrier and collecting the supernatant; and
separating a component having a histamine-releasing activity from the supernatant by column chromatography.
- 15 2. The atopic dermatitis inducer of claim 1, wherein the column chromatography is anion exchange column chromatography and/or reverse phase column chromatography.
3. An antibody prepared by using the atopic dermatitis inducer of claim
20 1 as an antigen, and specifically binding to the atopic dermatitis inducer of claim 1.
4. A method of diagnosing atopic dermatitis, which comprises testing whether or not an IgE antibody binding to the atopic dermatitis inducer of
25 claim 1 or 2 exists in the serum of a subject and determining that the subject whose serum contains the IgE antibody is a patient with atopic dermatitis or a high-risk individual for atopic dermatitis.
5. A method of diagnosing atopic dermatitis, which comprises adding
30 the atopic dermatitis inducer of claim 1 or 2 to a leukocyte fraction collected

from the blood of a subject; and determining that the subject is a patient with atopic dermatitis or a high-risk individual for atopic dermatitis from the degree of histamine release in the leukocyte fraction.

- 5 6. A method of diagnosing atopic dermatitis, which comprises testing whether or not a substance binding to an antibody of claim 3 exists in a biological sample of a subject, and determining that the subject whose sample contains the substance is a patient with atopic dermatitis or a high-risk individual for atopic dermatitis.
- 10 7. A reagent for determining a high-risk individual for atopic dermatitis, which comprises a patch test material having the atopic dermatitis inducer of claim 1 or 2.
- 15 8. A drug for desensitization therapy of atopic dermatitis, which contains the atopic dermatitis inducer of claim 1 or 2 as an active ingredient.

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